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A Brief and Plain

ACCOUNT

OF THE

PRINCIPLES

OF THE

Christian Religion.

Jane Stepenson K

*This is Life Eternal, that they might know Thee,
the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou
hast sent, John xvii. 3.*

*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt
be saved, Acts xvi. 31.*

*Not every one, that saith unto me, Lord, Lord,
shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven: but he
that doth the Will of my Father, which is in
Heaven, Mat. vii. 21.*

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Question,
Answer,



How made you?
God's Gen. ii.
26, 27, 28. Ps.
xcv. 6. c. 3.

Quest. For what

End did God make you?

A. To serve and enjoy him for ever.
Mat. iv. 10. Rom. xi. 36. Ps. lxxiii. 26.

*Q. What must you do, to come to the
Eternal Enjoyment of God?*

A 2

A.

A. Believe in him, so as to live in sincere Obedience to his holy Laws. *Heb.* xi. 6. *John* iii. 16. *Heb.* xii.

Q. What do you believe concerning God?

A. I do believe that there is a God, that is, a most perfect Being, who never had any Beginning, but did always exist, and will never have any End (*a*); who is without Body, Parts, and Passions, and perfectly free from all Matter and Composition (*b*); who is wonderfully present in all Places, but circumscrib'd and contain'd by none (*c*); who can easily do all Things, which do not imply a Contradiction, and are not inconsistent with the essential Perfections of his most glorious and excellent Nature (*d*); who exactly understands all Things that have been, that now are, and that shall, or can be, both those Things which are necessary, and also those Things which are contingent

(*a*) *Heb.* xi. 6. *Mat.* v. 48. *Psal.* xc. 2.
 (*b*) *John* iv. 24. (*c*) *1 Kings* viii. 27. *Psal.* cxxxix. 7--11. (*d*) *Mat* xix. 26. *Heb.* vi. 18. *1 Tim.* i. 17.

tingent to us (e); who does most wisely order and direct all Creatures to their respective Ends, and over-rules the wicked Actions of the Devils and sinful Men, and causes them to conduce to his own Glory and the Benefit of his faithful Servants (f); who always prescribes those Things to be done, which are exactly agreeable to his own most excellent Nature, and the several Natures of his Creatures, and takes Notice of their Actions, and impartially distributes Rewards and Punishments to his reasonable Creatures, according to their Works (g); who is faithful and true in all his Narrations, and Promises, and Threatnings (h); who is remov'd at an infinite Distance from all moral Imperfection and Sin, and is perfectly holy in his Nature, and in all his Works (i); who is good and beneficent to his Creatures, and ready to bestow upon them all Things, that are necessary to their Welfare and Happiness (k); who pities his Crea-
A 3 tures

(e) *Pf.* cxlvii. 5. *Heb.* iv. 13. *Pf.* cxxxix. 2. *Mark* xiv. 30. (f) *Rom.* xvi. 27. *Neh.* ix. 6. *Acts* ii. 22, 23, 24. (g) *Pf.* cxlv. 17. *Gen.* xviii. 25. *Rom.* ii. 6. (h) *Deut.* xxx. i. 3. *Num.* xxiii. 19. (i) *1 Pet.* i. 16. *Pf.* cxlv. 17. (k) *Pf.* clxv. 9. *Mat.* xix. 17.

tures which are in Misery, or liable to it, and is ready to afford them Succour and Relief (l); who bears long with those sinful Creatures that offend him, and importunes them to, repent and amend their Lives, that they may be the Objects of his gracious Favour, and not feel the dreadful Effects of his Wrath and Vengeance for ever (m); who is truly and compleatly happy in himself, and continues always the same, without any Variableness, or Shadow of turning, in his perfect Essence, and most glorious Attributes. (n)

Q. What do you believe farther concerning God?

A. I believe that there is but one eternal and most perfect God (a); and that this one eternal and most perfect God is, in some Respect, (yet as to the Manner not to be comprehended by us, imperfect and short-sighted Creatures,) Three, signified to us in the sacred Writings, by the Names, Father, Word
or

(l) *Exodus xxxiv. 6, 7. Ps. cxxxvi. 1, 2.*
 (m) *2 Pet. iii. 9. Ezek. xxxiii. 11.* (n) *1 Tim. vi. 15. Gen. xviii. 1. Mal. iii. 6. Jam. i. 17.* (a) *Deut. vi. 4. 1 Tim. ii. 5.*

or *Son*, and *Holy Ghost* (b); because we find such Things attributed to the *Son*, and the *Holy Ghost*, in the Scriptures, as cannot reasonably be ascrib'd to any Creature, (c) at the same Time that the Unity of the Godhead is fully asserted.

Q *Why do you believe, that there is a God?*

A. I do believe, and know that there is a God; because, 1. Many Things contingent and depending upon free Agents have been foretold; and no Creature could foretel Things they had not a Power to effect. (d) 2. Many miraculous Works have been performed for the Service of Men, which were above, and contrary to, the ordinary Course of Nature; and therefore there must be a wise, and powerful, and good Being, who has the Command of all Things, and can change their Natures and Properties when he pleases.

A 4

3.

(b) *Mat.* xxviii. 19. *1 John* v. 7. (c) *John* i. 1, 2, 3. *Rom.* ix. 5. *Col.* i. 13-17. *Heb.* i. 1-13. *Acts* v. 3, 4. *H-b* ix. 14. *Pf.* cxxxix. 7. *1 Cor.* xii. 4-11. (d) *1 Kings* xiii. 2. *Isa.* xlv. 28. lxi. 1, 2. *Isa.* xli. 23.

(e) 3. The great Variety of Creatures in the World, and the wonderful Order, and Frame, and Composition of them, do evidently discover, that they are the Effects of an infinitely wise, and powerful, and good Cause. (f) 4. I know that I have Sense, and Thought, and Reason; and consequently there must have been a knowing and wise Being from Eternity. For if once there had been no such Being, there never could have been any knowing and wise Being at all; And if there has been a knowing and wise Being from Eternity, then he must be unlimited in all Perfections; and this eternal and most perfect Being, I call God.

Q. What do you believe concerning the Works of God?

A. I do believe that God, who was infinitely perfect and happy in himself, did make the World of nothing, by his infinite Wisdom, and Power, and Goodness; and that he made all Creatures, which are contain'd in it, Angels, and Men, and Beasts, and Birds, and Fishes, and

(e) *Luke* vii. 21, 22. *John* iii. 2. *Acts* ii. 1, &c. (f) *Psf.* xix. 1. *Rom.* i. 20.

and Insects, and creeping Things, and Trees, and Plants, and Herbs, and Fruits, and Flowers, and Minerals; and that he constantly preserves, and governs them all, according to their respective Natures, in a most wise, and good, and excellent Manner. *Gen. i. &c. Heb. xi. 3. Neh. ix. 6. Col. i. 16, 17. Heb. i. 2, 3.*

Q. What do you think concerning the Angels?

A. I do believe that the all wise, and most gracious Creator, did make the Angels spiritual, knowing, wise, powerful, holy, and good; and that they all might have continued in their original State of Purity, Holiness, and Happiness, if they had not been very much wanting to themselves; that some of them did continue in a State of Holiness and Happiness, and that others of them did greatly offend God their Creator and Preserver, by their Sin, and not keep their first Estate, but leave their own Habitation; and therefore they are reserv'd by a just God in everlasting Chains under Darkness, unto the Judgment of the great Day, to be punish'd eternally for their Transgression. *Pf. cxlv. 17. Gen. i.*

31. *Heb. i. 14. 1 Cor. x. 13. 2 Pet. ii. 4. Jude v. 6. Matt. xxv. 41.*

Q. What do you believe concerning the Creation of Man?

A. I do believe, that God by his great Wisdom, and Power, and Goodness, did make our first Parents, *Adam* and *Eve*, from whom, the whole Race of Mankind was to be propagated; and endue them with reasonable and immortal Souls, capable to guide and direct them; and that he did give them an excellent Law, to be the constant Rule of their Actions, and to shew them what Duties they should perform to their Sovereign Creator, to the Sons of Men, and to themselves; and annex suitable Rewards and Punishments to this excellent and eternal Law of Reason, whereby they should be induced to abstain from the Commission of Sin, and to discharge their several Duties faithfully. *Gen. i. 26, 27, 28. Eccl. xii. 7. Matt. x. 28. Rom. ii. 14, 15.*

Q. What do you believe farther concerning our first Parents?

A. I do believe that God, of his great Goodness, was pleased to set our first Parents over the various Creatures of this lower World, and to supply them with all Things needful, or convenient for

for them; (a) and that he gave them a positive Law, which did require them to abstain from eating of the Fruit of the Tree, of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, under the Penalty of Death; (b) and that by the fatal Temptation of the old Serpent, *the Devil*, they were prevail'd upon to eat of the forbidden Fruit, and transgress the Commandment of God; and that by their heinous Transgression, they exposed themselves, and all their Posterity, to Misery and Death. (d)

Q. What Remedy has God been graciously pleased to provide against the dreadful Effects of the Sin of our first Parents?

A. I do believe, that after the great Sin, and foul Apostacy of our first Parents, God was pleased to enter into a Covenant of Grace and Mercy with sinful Men, thro' the Merits and Mediation of an all-sufficient Redeemer, *Jesus Christ*, who is the Lamb slain from the Foundation of the World; (e) and to give some Hope or the Pardon of Sin, of Acceptance with himself, and

(a) Gen. 1. 29. 30. (b) Gen. 2. 17. (c) Gen. 3. 1-6. John 8. 44. () Gen. 3. 19. Rom. 5. 12. 1 Cor. 15. 22. (e) Gen. 3. 15. 1 John 4. 9, 10. John 1. 29. Rev. 13. 8.

and of Eternal Happiness to all those that truly repent of their Sins, implore the Forgiveness of them, use reasonable Diligence to inform themselves of the Will of God, and sincerely endeavour to perform Obedience to it, so far as it is discover'd to them; (f) and that the Coming of this glorious Redeemer into the World, was often foretold by the Prophets, and typified by various Rites and Sacrifices, under the Mosaick Dispensation; and that in the Fulness of Time, he came into the World to seek, and to save lost and perishing Sinners. (g)

Q. What do you believe concerning the Nature of our Redeemer?

A. I do believe that this glorious Redeemer, the Lord Jesus Christ, is the only begotten Son of God; (h) and that as to his divine Nature, he had a Being, before the World was created, even from all Eternity; (i) and that he was called Jesus, after his Coming into
the

(f) *John.* 2. 9, 10. *Acts* 10. 34, 35. *Rom.* 2. 4-16. (g) *Luke* 24. 44-47. *Col.* 2. 16, 17. *Heb.* 10. 1. *Gal.* 4. 4, 5. *Mat.* 1. 21. *John* 3. 16. (h) *John* 3. 16. (i) *John* 17. 5. 1. 1, 2, 3. *Col.* 1. 15, 16, 17.

the World, because he was to save his People from their Sins ; (k) and that he was called Christ, because he was anointed with the Holy Ghost, and invested by God the Father with the great Offices of Prophet, and Priest, and King, to reveal the Will of God to the Sons of Men ; to make Expiation of their Sins, by shedding his most precious Blood upon the Cross, and interceeding for them in Heaven ; and to rule them by his righteous Laws, and his Holy Spirit, and his Ministers ; (l) and having vanquished all their, and his Enemies, to settle them in a State of Peace and Bliss in Heaven ; and that he is called our Lord, because he created and redeemed us, and is constituted by the Father, the Head and Governor of the Church. (m)

Q. What do you believe concerning the Conception and Birth of Christ ?

A. I do believe that Jesus Christ, the gracious Saviour of the World, was
con-

(k) *Mat.* 1. 21. (l) *John* 1. 41. *Acts* 10. 38. *John* 3. 2. *John* 5. 43. *Pf.* 2. 6. *John* 14. 26. *Heb.* 7. 26, 27. *Col.* 1. 14. *Heb.* 9. 24. *Luke* 1. 32, 33. *Rom.* 8. 9. *John* 20. 21. *Heb.* 13. 17. (m) *Acts* 10. 36. *John* 1. 2, 3. *1 Pet.* 1. 19. *Eph.* 1. 23. *Phil.* 2. 6--11.

conceived by the miraculous and powerful over-shadowing, and Operation of the Holy Ghost, and born of a pure Virgin, called *Mary*, of the Seed of *Abraham*, of the Lineage and Family of *David*, (a) and in the Town of *Bethlehem*; (b) and that he lived a holy and virtuous Life, (c) and was baptized by his Messenger *John the Baptist* about the thirtieth Year of his Age, and declared to be the Son of God, and the Saviour of the World, by the visible Descent of the Holy Ghost upon him, and by a Voice from Heaven, saying, *This is my Beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased*; (d) and by many and various miraculous Works of Goodness upon Mankind.

Q. Did Christ reveal the Will of God to us, and shew us the Way to the Kingdom of Heaven?

A. I do believe that our Blessed Saviour, Jesus Christ, did reveal the holy Will of God to the Sons of Men, and perswade them to believe in him, and perform

(a) *Luke* 1. 35. *Mat* 1. 20-23. *Gal.* 4. 16.
 (b) *Luke* 2. 4-11. *John* 7. 42. (c) *Luk* 2. 1.
Heb. 7. 26, 27. 1 *Pet.* 2. 21-23. (d) *Mat.* 3.
 13-17. *Luke* 3. 21, 22, 23.

perform Obedience to his righteous Laws ; (a) and that he did confirm his holy and excellent Doctrine by many plain and undeniable Miracles, and thereby unanswerably prove himself to be a Teacher come from God ; (b) and that he appointed certain Persons to preach his holy Doctrine to the World, to convert Men, and gather them into his Church, and to govern it according to his sacred Laws ; (c) and that the Will of God, the excellent Doctrine which our Blessed Saviour and his Apostles taught, and confirm'd by many miraculous Works, was committed to Writing, by Men guided by the infallible Direction and Assistance of the Holy Ghost, and is contain'd in that Book, which is usually called the Bible, and the holy Scriptures ; (d) and that this excellent and unvaluable Book has been safely convey'd down to us, without any material Alteration ; and that it is a perfect Rule of Faith and Manners ; and that nothing is to be believed

(a) *Heb.* 1. 1, 2. *John* 8. 26--29. 10. 37, 38, 39. 8. 30, 31. (b) *John* 3. 2. 5. 36. *Acts* 2. 22. (c) *John* 20. 21. *Mat.* 28. 19, 20. (d) *John* 14. 26. 20. 31. *2 Pet.* 1. 20, 21. *2 Tim.* 3. 16. *1 Cor.* 14. 37. *Rev.* 22. 18, 19.

ed or done, as necessary to everlasting Salvation, which is not contain'd in it, or cannot be prov'd by plain and evident Consequence from it ; (e) and that one Part of that sacred Book, is not contrary to another ; (f) and that it is to be understood and interpreted like other Writings ; and that it is very plain and easie to be understood in all those Particulars, that are necessary to everlasting Salvation ; (g) and that the People ought to have it in a Language which they understand ; that they may read it, and inform themselves of the Way to eternal Happiness. (h)

Q. What do you believe concerning the Humiliation and Sufferings of Christ ?

A. I do believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, was ungratefully betray'd by one of his own Disciples, and sold to his malicious Enemies for thirty Pieces of Silver ; (a) that he was unjustly condemn'd by the Jewish Council, and spit-

(e) *John* 20. 31. 2 *Tim.* 3. 16, 17. (f) *Rom.* 3. 4. *Acts* 17. 11, 12. (g) 2 *Cor.* 3. 12. 1 *Cor.* 2. 1. *Acts* 20. 27. 2 *Tim.* 3. 16, 17. (h) *John* 5. 39. *Deut.* 6. 6, 7. *Acts* 17. 11. *Luke* 16. 29, 30, 31. (a) *Mat.* 26. 14-49. *Mark* 14. 61-65. 15. 15-20.

spitted on, and buffeted, and scourged, and cloathed with Purple, and crown'd with Thorns; that he was shamefully abused, and exposed to Scorn and Contempt, by the chief Priests and Rulers of the *Jews*, and *Herod* and his Men of War; (b) that he was several Times declar'd to be an innocent Person by his Judge, *Pontius Pilate* the *Roman* Governour; and yet at the great and restless Importunity of the *Jews*, was basely sentenced by him, to the shameful and painful Death of the Cross; that he was nail'd to the Cross in the very sensible Parts of his sacred Body, his Hands and his Feet, and crucified between two Malefactors; (c) that he was laugh'd at, and ridicul'd by his Enemies, and endur'd severe Torments on the Cross; that he pray'd for his Enemies and Persecutors, and offer'd up himself to God the Father, a spotless Sacrifice upon the Cross, and shed his most precious Blood, and died upon the Cross, for the Expiation of the Sins of the whole World; (d) that his
Side

(b) *Luke* 23. 13.. 24. *John* 19. 13.. 18. (c) *Luke* 24. 39. *Pf.* 22. 16. *Luke* 23. 33. *Matt* 27. 39.. 50. (d) *Luke* 23. 34. *Heb.* 7. 26, 27. 9. 14, 15, 25-28. 1 *Pet.* 2. 24. 1 *John* 2. 1, 2. *Heb.* 2. 9. 1 *Tim.* 2. 5, 6.

Side was pierced with a Spear, but not a Bone of him was broken ; that sometime after his Death, he was taken down from the Cross, and laid in a Sepulchre hewen in a Rock, wherein never Man was laid before ; (e) and that his precious Soul, being separated from his sacred Body, went into Paradise, or Hades, the delightful Place of good Mens Souls, and continued there for some Time. (f)

Q. Did our Blessed Saviour continue under the Dominion of Death ?

A. I do believe that our Lord Jesus Christ did arise from the Dead, on the third Day after his Crucifixion, and Death upon the Cross ; (a) and that he was seen several Times by his Disciples and Followers (b); and that he did eat and drink with them after his Resurrection ; and that he was pleased to permit them to handle his sacred Body, and to command one of his unbelieving Disciples to put his Finger into the Print of the Nails, and to thrust his Hand into his Side, for his full Conviction and Satisfaction, that he was
risen

(e) *John* 19. 33--37 *Mark* 15. 44. 45. *John* 19. 38--42. (f) *Luke* 23. 43. *Acts* 2. 27--31, 32.
(a) *Acts* 10. 36--43. (b) *1 Cor.* 15. 3--8.

risen from the Dead ; (c) and that he did converse with them during the Space of Forty Days after his Resurrection, and instruct them in the important Affairs of his spiritual Kingdom, and give his Blessing to them, and ascend up visibly into Heaven. (d)

Q. What do you believe concerning the Exaltation of Christ ?

A. I do believe that Jesus Christ, the gracious Redeemer of the World, is triumphantly exalted unto the right Hand of God in Heaven, and crown'd with exceeding Majesty and Honour, and placed far above every Creature in Heaven and Earth ; (e) and that he does make Intercession with God the Father, for all penitent and returning Sinners ; (f) and rule the Church by his Word, and Spirit, and Ministers ; (g) and that he will come down from Heaven at the End of the World, array'd with the Splendent Glory of his Father, and attended with a numerous Train of the Holy Angels, to call all
Man-

(c) *Luke* 24. 39, 40. *John* 20. 25--29. (d) *Acts* 1. 2, 3. *Luke* 24. 50, 51. *Acts* 1. 9, 10, 11. (e) *Eph.* 1. 20, 24. *Phil.* 2. 5-11. *1 Pet.* 3. 22. (f) *Heb.* 7. 25. 9. 24. *1 John* 2. 1, 2. (g) *Eph.* 4. 4-6. *John* 16. 13, 14, 15. *Heb.* 5. 9. 13. 17.

Mankind to an Account for their Works, all those Persons, that shall be living at that Time, and all those Persons, that shall have died from the Beginning of the World unto that Time, and to sentence them to an everlasting State of Happiness or Misery, according to their Works. (b)

Q. What do you believe concerning the Holy Ghost ?

A. I do believe that the Holy Ghost is a Divine Person, the third in the Holy Trinity; (a) and that he has reveal'd the holy Will of God to the Sons of Men, and powerfully assisted the Prophets, and our Blessed Saviour, and his Disciples, in the Performance of many miraculous Works for the Confirmation of their Doctrine; (b) and that he has assisted the Children of Men, from the Beginning of the World, in the Performance of their Duty towards God, their Neighbour, and themselves; (c) and that he does still vouchsafe his gracious Assistance to them,

(h) *Mark* 8. 38. *Mat.* 25. 31-46. *Acts* 17. 30, 31. 10. 42. *2 Cor.* 5. 10. *Rom.* 2. 6-9. (a) *1 John* 5. 7. *Mat.* 28. 19. *Heb.* 9. 14. (b) *2 Pet.* 1. 21. *2 Tim.* 3. 16. *John* 3. 44. *Mat.* 12. 28. *1 Cor.* 12. 4, 11. (c) *Gen.* 6. 3. *Pf.* 51. 11, 12.

them, and seasonably check and restrain them from Sin, and put holy and virtuous Thoughts into their Minds, and excite, and move them to the faithful Performance of their Duty. (d)

Q. What do you think of the Church of God?

A. I do believe that God has a Church of faithful and obedient People; and that Part of this Church is in Heaven and Happiness, and Part of it is upon the Earth, conflicting with the great Enemies of our eternal Salvation, the World, the Flesh, and the Devil; (a) and that this Part of the Church of Christ, which is now upon the Earth, being divided into many particular Churches, does with that Part of it, which is now in Heaven, make but one Catholick, or Universal Church; and this Catholick, or Universal Church on Earth, does comprehend all true Believers in the World, and is one Body or Society under Jesus Christ, the Head and Governour of it;

(d) *Luke* 11. 13. *Rom.* 8. 9. *Eph.* 4. 4, 5. *Rom.* 8. 26, 27. *Gal.* 5. 22, 23, 25. *1 Cor.* 10. 13. *Eph.* 5. 9. *Phil.* 2. 12, 13. (a) *Eph.* 1. 22, 23. 4. 4, 5. *Heb.* 12. 22, 23, 24. *Eph.* 2. 19, 22.

it; (b) and that this Church is holy, as being in Covenant with God, and separated from the sinful World; and having promised to live according to the Laws of Christ, and acting according to that solemn Engagement. (c)

Q. What do you think of the Communion of the Saints?

A. I do believe that this Society of faithful People, who are called the Church, and act according to the Laws of Jesus Christ, have Communion with God the Father, and his Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Ghost; and with one another in the Faith, and the Hope of their Calling, in the Sacraments, and in mutual Love and Kindness; (d) and that it is unlawful to disturb the Peace of the Church for indifferent Things, to break the Communion of the Saints, to cause a Schism in the mystical Body of Christ, and to erect an Altar against an Altar. (e)

Q.

(b) Eph. 6. 12. 1 John 5. 5. 2 Cor. 1. 3. Gal. 1. 22. 1 Cor. 12. 27. Eph. 4. 4, 5. Heb. 12. 22, 23, 24. Mark 16. 16. John 3. 16. Acts 16. 31. (c) 1 Pet. 2. 9. Rom. 12. 2. 1 John 2. 15. 1 Pet. 3. 21. Gal. 5. 24. Rom. 8. 1, 9, 13. (d) 1 John 1. 3. 2 Cor. 13. 14. Eph. 4. 4, 5, 6. 1 Cor. 10. 16, 17. John 13. 35. (e) 1 Cor. 12. 25, 26. 1. 10. 3. 3, 4. Rom. 14. 17, 18. Eph. 2. 17. 2. 3.

Q. What do you believe concerning the Remission of Sins?

A. I believe that Sin is the Transgression of the Law of God, and that the Punishment of it, is Death; (a) that God of his infinite Goodness and Mercy, thro' the inestimable Merits, and prevailing Intercession of his dear Son Jesus Christ, will pardon the Sins of all those Persons, who truly repent of their Sins, and sincerely endeavour to live according to his holy Laws; cease to do evil, and learn to do well; confess their Sins to God with Sorrow and Shame, and earnestly implore the Forgiveness of them, in the Name of Jesus Christ; and constantly strive to live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present World; (b) and that under the Gospel Dispensation, there is Remission of all Sins to be obtained, thro' Repentance and Faith in Christ, excepting the Blasphemy against the Holy Ghost, which appears to me to be a malicious imputing of the miraculous Works of the Holy Ghost, that were wrought for the Confirmation of the

(a) 1. *John* 3. 4. *Rom.* 6. 23. (b) *Acts* 13. 38. 3. 19. 1. *John* 1. 9. *Proph.* 28. 13. *Isa.* 55. 6, 7. *Ezek.* 18. 27. *Acts* 26. 15-18. *Luke* 11. 9-13.

the Gospel, to the Power of the Devil; which great and unpardonable Sin, it is probable, cannot be committed since the Cessation of Miracles, especially in so high a Degree, as some of the *Jews* committed it; who saw those miraculous Works effected, and could not deny them. (c)

Q. Do you think that the Dead will always continue in their Graves?

A. I believe that the Souls of Men are immortal; and that the Souls of good Men, immediately after they are separated from their Bodies, do go into a Place of Happiness; (d) and that the Souls of wicked Men after Death, do go into a Place of Misery; and that they will continue in these respective Places of Happiness and Misery, until the Resurrection at the last and great Day; (e) and that the Bodies of the Dead shall be raised by the Almighty Power of God, and that their Souls shall be united to them; and that the Bodies of the righteous shall be

(c) *Mark* 3. 28, 29, 30. *Mat* 12. 31, 32. *1 John* 5. 16, 17, 18. *Mark* 3. 22. *John* 11. 47. *Acts* 2. 1, &c. *Acts* 4. 16. (d) *Mat*. 10. 28. *Eccel.* 12. 7. *Luke* 23. 43. *2 Cor.* 5. 1, 6, 8. *Phil.* 1. 23. (e) *Luke* 10. 19-31.

be made incorruptible, and spiritual, and glorious Bodies ; and that the Bodies of the Wicked shall be prepar'd for their final Doom, and endless Punishment. (c)

Q. What do you believe concerning the future and eternal State of Men?

A. I do believe, that after the final Judgment at the last and great Day, the Righteous will be conducted into the Kingdom of Heaven, and be crowned with unspeakable Glory, and Honour, and Happiness, and dwell for ever in the delightful Presence of the all-sufficient God, and of their glorious Redeemer Jesus Christ ; (a) and that the Wicked will be sent into a dreadful Prison of severe and everlasting Punishment ; where their Worm dies not, and the Fire is not quench'd. (b)

Q. Do you think that you ought to love and fear God?

A. I believe that I ought to love God, the most perfect Being, and my greatest Benefactor, above all other Things, and to chuse to part with all
B
Things,

(c) *Acts* 24. 15. *John* 5. 28, 29. *1 Cor.* 15. 42-58. *Dan.* 12. 2. *Mat.* 25. 46. (a) *Mat.* 25. 34-46. *Rom.* 2. 6, 7, 8. *1 Theff.* 4. 14-18. (b) *Mat.* 25. 41-46. *Mark* 9. 43, 44.

Things, even those that are the nearest and dearest to me, rather than to incur his severe Displeasure; (a) and that I ought to fear him, who is Almighty, and able to save, and to destroy eternally, above all other Things, and to perform Obedience to his Divine Will against all the angry Frowns and terrible Threatnings, and cruel Actions of unreasonable and wicked Men. (b)

Q. Is it your Duty to trust in God, and to submit to his Will?

A. I do believe, that after I have sincerely and faithfully endeavoured to discharge my Duty, I ought to place my Hope and Confidence in the most wise, and powerful, and good God, who is always able and willing to defend and succour them, that duly trust in him; (c) and to submit patiently to the all-wise Dispensations of his Divine Providence; and to resign up my self entirely to his most gracious Disposal; and to conclude, that the Condition, which he is pleased to allot to me in the World, is indeed the best, and most convenient for me. (d)

Q.

(a) *Mat.* 5. 48. *Pf.* 145. 9. *Luke* 10. 27. *Mat.* 10. 37, 38, 39. (b) *Eccl.* 12. 13. *Luke* 12. 4, 5. *Rom.* 8. 18. (c) *Eccl.* 9. 10. *2 Theff.* 3. 6-12. *Pf.* 37. 3, 5. *Pf.* 42. 5. *Pf.* 37. 23-28. *Phil.* 2. 12, 13. (d) *1 Pet.* 5. 7. *Mat.* 26. 39. *Heb.* 12. 6. *Rom.* 8. 28, 28, 30.

Q. Are not you oblig'd to pray to God ?

A. I believe that Prayer is an humble and affectionate presenting of my Desires to God our Heavenly Father, either with, or without Words, for a seasonable Supply of those good Things, which I my self, or other Persons, stand in need of, both for our temporal and eternal Welfare ; (a) and that I ought to present my humble Petitions to God the Father, in the Name of his Son *Jesus Christ*, for his gracious Favours in the Morning and Evening, and also all other convenient Times ; (b) and that I am strictly obliged to attend on the publick Worship of Almighty God on that Day, which is set apart for his publick Worship and Service, if I be not hinder'd by Sicknefs, or by Works of Necessity, Charity, and Mercy ; and that I ought to attend on the publick Service of God at other Times, when my temporal Concernments will give me Leave to do so ; (c) and that it is not

B 2

only

(a) *Luke* 11. 9-13. *1 Sam.* 1. 13. *Pf.* 55. 17. *Mat.* 7. 11. *1 Tim.* 2. 1, 2. *Mat.* 5. 44. *James* 5. 16. (b) *Mat.* 4. 10. 6. 9. *John* 16. 23. *Exod.* 29. 38, 39. *Pf.* 55. 17. *Dan.* 6. 10. *Acts* 2. 15. 3. 1. (c) *1 Theff.* 5. 17. *Heb.* 10. 25. *Ecc.* 5. 1, 2. *Acts* 20. 7. *Mat.* 12. 7, 8. *Pf.* 122. 1, 2. *Luke* 2. 37. *Eph.* 6. 18.

only lawful, but also very convenient, to make Use of a Form of Prayer in my solemn Addresſes to the most wise and good God. (d)

Q. Do you think that you ought to give Thanks to God for his Benefits?

A. I believe that I ought to consider, seriously and frequently, of those many and great Favours and Blessings, corporal and spiritual, which God our Heavenly Father has freely conferr'd upon me and other Persons, and to endeavour to possess my Soul with a grateful and affectionate Sense of them; (a) and thankfully to speak of them, and to praise and adore him for them at all fit and convenient Times, both in publick and private; (b) and to testify my grateful and thankful Sense of the Divine Favours, by sincerely endeavouring to promote the Honour and Glory of God, by devoting my self to his Service, and by walking before him in Holiness and Righteousness all the Days of my Life. (c)

Q. Are you required to honour God?

A.

(d) Num. 6. 23-26. Luke 11. 1-5. 2 Cor. 13, 14.
 (a) Mat. 7. 11. Luke 11. 13. James 1. 17. 1 Tim. 2. 1, 2. Ps. 31. 19-23. (b) Ps. 71. 17. Ps. 103. 1-5. 100. 4, 5. 95. 1-6. (c) Deut. 6. 3-6. 10. 12-18.

A. I believe that I ought to pay due Honour and Reverence to the great and glorious Majesty of Heaven and Earth, and to every Thing that bears a peculiar Relation to him ; (*a*) to his holy Name and Sacraments, to his Ministers and House, and to his sacred Word ; (*b*) and that I ought to read the Holy Scriptures frequently, with Humility and Reverence, with Seriousness and Attention, and with a sincere Desire to be inform'd of my Duty, and to be encouraged to the faithful Discharge of it. (*c*)

Q. What do you believe concerning Baptism ?

A. I do believe that the sacred Rite of Baptism is appointed by our Blessed Saviour to be the only ordinary Means of entering into the Christian Church ; (*d*) and that it is the dipping Persons in, or the sprinkling them with Water, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost ; (*e*) and that it ought to be administered by those Persons alone, whom our Lord has been pleased to appoint the Governours of

B 3

his

(*a*) 1 Sam. 2. 30. Ps. 89. 7. Lev. 10. 3. Prov. 3. 9. (*b*) Rev. 15. 4. 1 Cor. 11. 29. 1 Thess. 5. 13. Mat. 21. 12, 13. Isa. 66. 2. (*c*) John 5. 39. Ps. 1. 2. 119. 97. 2 Tim. 3. 14, 15, 16. (*d*) Mat. 28. 19. 1 Cor. 12. 13. (*e*) Acts 10. 47. 18. Mat. 28. 19.

his Church ; (f) and that it is to be administred but once ; (g) and that all adult Persons, who make Profession of their Repentance, and Faith in Christ, and Resolution to perform sincere Obedience to his holy Laws, ought to be baptized ; (h) and that the Infants of believing Parents not only may, but ought to be admitted into the Christian Church, by the sacred Institution of Baptism. (i)

Q. What do you believe concerning the Lord's Supper ?

A. I believe that the Lord's Supper ought duly to be administred by those Persons, whom our Blessed Lord has commission'd and appointed to do it, and to be gratefully received by all Christians, who are arrived to the Use of their Understanding, and are capable of examining their Lives, and discovering their Misdoings, of confessing their Sins to God, and begging Pardon of them in the Name of *Jesus Christ*, of devoting themselves to the Worship
and

(f) *John* 20. 21. *Mat.* 28. 18, 19, 20. (g) *Eph.* 4. 5. *John* 3. 5. (h) *Acts* 2. 38. 8. 36, 37. 1 *Pet.* 3. 21. (i) *Mark* 10. 14. 1 *Cor.* 7. 14. *Col.* 2. 11, 12. *Acts* 2. 38, 39.

and Service of God, and worthily commemorating of the Death and Passion of our Blessed Saviour, for the Redemption and Salvation of Mankind; (a) and that the Bread and Wine, which are to be used at that Time, ought to be blessed or consecrated, and broken, and eaten, and drunk, to represent the wounding, and breaking of the Sacred Body, and the shedding of the precious Blood of Christ our Saviour, for the Expiation of the Sins of the whole World; (b) and that the Substance and Nature of the Bread and Wine do continue after Consecration; (c) and that all Christians who partake of the consecrated Bread, ought to partake of the consecrated Wine too; (d) and that those Persons, who come to the Lord's Table with true Repentance, and a lively Faith in God's Mercy thro' Jesus Christ, and a thankful Remembrance of his meritorious Death, and a fervent Charity to all Men, and a sincere Resolution to keep their Baptismal Covenant for the Time to come, do as certainly receive

B 4

the

(a) *Luke* 22. 19, 20. *Mat.* 26. 26, 27, 28. *1 Theff.* 5. 18. *1 Cor.* 11. 23-26. 5. 7, 8. 11. 27-34. *Col.* 1. 13, 14. (b) *Mat.* 26. 26, 27, 28. *1 Cor.* 11. 23-26. *Isa.* 53. 4, 5. *1 John* 2. 1, 2. (c) *1 Cor.* 11. 23-28. *Acts* 3. 20, 21. (d) *Mark* 14. 22-25. *1 Cor.* 10. 16-17.

the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, as they receive the Signs and Symbols of them; the Bread and Wine: that is, they are certainly entitled to the inestimable Benefits of Christ's meritorious Death and Passion, viz. the Pardon of Sins, the gracious Assistance of the Holy Spirit, and eternal Happiness in the Kingdom of Heaven. (e)

Q. What do you think of Abstinence and Fasting?

A I believe that I ought duly to observe those Days of Fasting and Abstinence, which are appointed by my Governours, so far as it will enable me the better to perform Worship and Service to God; (a) and that I ought to set apart some convenient Time for private Fasting and Humiliation; and that I ought constantly to use such Abstinence, and so to refrain my Appetite of Meat and Drink, as it will fit and qualifie me the better to discharge my Duty towards God, and to live soberly, righteously, and godlily, in this present World. (b)

Q.

(e) *Acts* 3. 19. *John* 3. 16. *Heb.* 10. 21, 22. *1 Thess.* 5. 18. *Mat.* 5. 23, 24. *1 Cor.* 5. 7, 8. *Mat.* 7. 21. *Isa.* 55. 6, 7. *Luke* 13. 5. *Eph.* 4. 4. *1 Cor.* 12. 13. *Mat.* 5. 8. *Rom.* 8. 13. (a) *Rom.* 13. 1. *Heb.* 13. 17. (b) *Mat.* 9. 15. *James* 4. 10. *2 Cor.* 11. 27. *1 Cor.* 9. 26, 27. *1 Pet.* 5. 8. *Rom.* 13. 13, 14. *Tit.* 2. 11-14.

Q. How ought you to worship God?

A. I believe that I ought to worship God in Spirit, and in Truth, and according to those excellent Directions, which he has given us in his holy Word, and with such decent and lowly Gestures of Body, as are fit to represent the Humility and Reverence of my Mind ; (a) and that it is unlawful to attempt to represent the infinite and most perfect God, by any Image or Picture ; (b) and to give Divine Worship to any Image or Picture, or to any created Being. (c)

Q. Do you think that it is lawful to take an Oath ?

A. I believe that it is lawful to take an Oath, when I am requir'd to do so by a just Authority ; (d) and when I do take an Assertory Oath, that I am obliged to swear the Truth, and nothing but the Truth ; and when I do take a Promissory Oath, that I am strictly obliged to promise nothing but what is lawful to be perform'd, and what I really intend to perform ; (e) and that an Oath cannot oblige me to do any Thing, which is im-

B 5

possible

(a) *John* 4. 23, 24. *Mark* 7. 7. *Mat.* 28. 19, 20. *1 Cor.* 14. 26, 40. *Acts* 7. 60. *Mat.* 26. 39. *Pf.* 95. 6. (b) *Exod.* 20. 4, 5, 6. *Isa.* 40. 18. (c) *Mat.* 4. 10. *Rom.* 1. 25. *Gal.* 4. 8. (d) *Gen.* 24. 3. *Heb.* 6. 13, 16. *Jer.* 4. 2. (e) *Mat.* 5. 33. *Pf.* 15. 2-5. *Eph.* 4. 25.

possible or unlawful ; (*f*) and that if I should make any Vow to the Almighty, it ought to be of that Thing which is lawful, and possible, and convenient to be done ; and that I ought duly to observe such a Vow ; (*g*) and that it is unlawful to swear by any Creature, to take the glorious Name of God in vain, and to call him to be a Witness to our vain and idle Talk, or common Discourse. (*b*)

Q. Is there any Time appointed for the publick Worship of God ?

A. I do believe, that the first Day of the Week, which is usually called *Sunday*, and the *Lord's-Day*, is set apart for the Commemoration of the great Power, and Wisdom, and Goodness of God, discovered in the Creation, Preservation, and Redemption of the World ; (*a*) and that it ought to be spent in the Worship and Service of God, in private Prayer and Thanksgiving, in pious Meditation and Reading of the Holy Scriptures, and other good Books, in performing Works of Necessity and Mercy, and in due Attendance on the publick Worship of God ;

(*f*) *Acts* 4. 19. *Rom.* 3. 8. (*g*) *Psf.* 76. 11. *Eccl.* 5. 4, 5, 6. *1 Thsff.* 5. 22. (*h*) *Mat.* 5. 34-37. *Exod.* 20. 7. *James* 5. 12, (*a*) *Exod.* 20. 8-11. *Luke* 24. 1-8. *Acts* 20. 7. *1 Cor.* 16. 1, 2. *Isa.* 58. 13, 14.

God ; (*) and that all Persons ought to go to the Church in due Time, even before the Divine Service begins, and to behave themselves reverently and decently in the House and Presence of the great God, and to join affectionately in the Confession of Sins, in the Prayers and Praises, in the Confessions of Faith, and to attend seriously and diligently to the good Word of God read and preach'd, and to join in all the Responses or Answers, that are to be made in the Time of the Divine Service, and to receive the Holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and then to join with, and to attend to the Publick Service, and to make use of their own Books of private Devotions in such Intervals, when the publick Service is interrupted.

Q. What is your Duty towards your Neighbour ?

A. I do believe that I ought to abstain from Murder, (a) Hatred, (b) Malice, Envy,

(*) Ps. 111. 1-10. Rev. 1. 9, 10. Mat. 4. 10. 6. 6. 1 Thess. 5. 18. Ps. 77. 11, 12. John 5. 39. Eph. 5. 16, 17. Heb. 13. 16. 10. 25. Luke 21. 38. 11. 28. 1 Cor. 10. 31. 14. 41. Mat. 18. 20. 1 John 1. 9. Eph. 5. 19, 20. Rom. 10. 9. 2 Tim. 1. 13. Ps. 78. 1, 2. Luke 19. 48. Rom. 15. 4, 5, 6. 1 Cor. 11. 26-33. 14. 33-40. Eph. 5. 16-20. (a) Mat. 19. 18. (b) Gal. 5. 20.

vy. (c) Revenge, (d) Bitterness, Wrath, inordinate and causeless Anger, (e) reviling and reproachful Language, (f) Variance, Emulations, and Strife, (g) from Robbery, (h) Theft, (i) Oppression, (k) Deceit and Fraud, (l) false and unjust Weights and Measures, (m) and all circumventing and over-reaching of others; (n) from Adultery, Fornication, and all Uncleaness; (o) from Lying, (p) Slander, (q) Detraction, Backbiting, Evil-speaking, (r) and filthy Communication (s); from every Thing that will be injurious and hurtful to my Neighbour; (t) and that I ought to be just in all my Intercourse and Commerce with others; and to render to all Men, to Superiours, to Equals, and to Inferiours, whatsoever by any Kind of Right becomes their Due; (u) and that I am obliged, as I have Opportunity and Ability, to perform all Offices of Charity and Mercy to Men, in Respect of their Souls, Bodies, Goods, and
 Repu-

(c) *Tit.* 3. 3. (d) *Rom.* 12. 19. (e) *Eph.* 4. 31. (f) 1 *Cor.* 6. 10. (g) *Gal.* 5. 20. (h) *Lev.* 19. 13. (i) *Exod.* 20. 15. (k) *Lev.* 25. 17. (l) *Mat.* 10. 19. (m) *Deut.* 25. 13-16. (n) 1 *Thess.* 4. 6. (o) *Gal.* 5. 19. (p) *Col.* 3. 9. (q) *Prov.* 10. 18. (r) 2 *Cor.* 12. 20. *James* 4. 11. (s) *Col.* 3. 8. (t) *Rom.* 13. 10. (u) 1 *Cor.* 6. 9. *Rom.* 13. 7.

Reputations; (w) to instruct the ignorant, to reprove the Sinner, to advise the doubtful, to comfort the disconsolate, to feed the hungry, to cloath the naked, to defend the oppressed, to vindicate the slander'd, and to do to all other Men, as I would they should do to me, if I was in their Circumstances, and they were in mine. (x)

Q. What is your Duty towards your self?

A. I believe that I ought to abstain from Gluttony, Drunkenness, and all Excess in Apparel and Diet, (a) from Pride, Ambition, (b) rash and unjust judging and censuring, (c) Strife, Contention, Moroseness, and all Impurity in Thought, Word, and Deed (d); from Impatience, Discontent, murmuring at my Condition, (e) Sloth and Idleness; (f) and that I ought to govern my Affections and Passions rightly, and to place them upon due Objects, and to value Things as they deserve, and as they conduce to my temporal and eternal Happiness; (g) to be sober

(w) *Gal.* 6. 9, 10. (x) *Col.* 3. 8-14. *Job* 29. 11-17. *Fam.* 5. 19, 20. *Mat.* 25. 34-43. *Gal.* 6. 1. *Heb.* 3. 13. *1 Theff.* 5. 11. *Mat.* 5. 44. 7-12. (a) *Prov.* 23, 21. *1 Pet.* 3. 3. (b) *1 Pet.* 5: 5. (c) *Mat.* 7. 1, 2. (d) *Gal.* 5. 19, 20, 21. (e) *Fam.* 5. 7. *Phil.* 4. 11. *1 Cor.* 10. 10. (f) *Prov.* 19. 15. (g) *Prov.* 4. 23. *Eph.* 5. 15. *Col.* 3. 1, 2.

sober and temperate in the Use of all the good Creatures of God, and in the Desire of sensual Pleasure; (b) to be humble, and meek, and peaceable; to be courteous, and affable, and condescending; (i) to be chaste, and modest, and patient; (k) to be diligent in my lawful Calling and Employment, and contented with my present Condition. (l)

Q. What is the Duty of the Civil Magistrate?

A. I believe that Civil Government is the Ordinance of God, and that Governours are appointed by him; (a) that it is the Duty of him, or them, who are invested with the supreme Authority, to enact such Laws as are judged necessary or convenient to promote the Glory of God, to advance the true Religion, and to secure and promote the Peace, Welfare, and Happiness of the Society; and to see that the Laws are duly executed; (b) to set a good Example to the People, of Piety

(h) *Tit.* 2. 11, 12. *1 Cor.* 10. 31. *Gal.* 5. 19-21. (i) *Col.* 3. 8-14. *Mat.* 11. 29, 30. *Rom.* 12. 18. *1 Pet.* 3. 8, 9. *Rom.* 12. 16. (k) *1 Thess.* 4. 3. *James* 5. 8. (l) *2 Thess.* 3. 10, 11, 12. *1 Tim.* 6. 6, 7, 8. (a) *Rom.* 13. 1-6. *1 Pet.* 2. 13, 14, 15. (b) *1 Cor.* 10. 31. *Isa.* 49. 23. *Fer.* 7. 5, 6, 7. *Mat.* 5. 16. *Tit.* 2. 11, 12. *Gal.* 5. 19-23. *1 Kings* 8.

ety and Devotion, Justice and Mercy, Sobriety and Temperance; and to pray to God, the Author of all good Things, for the Peace and Happiness of the Society.

Q. What is the Duty of Subjects towards their Civil Governours?

A. I do believe that all Subjects ought to perform Obedience to the lawful and reasonable Commands of their Governours; and if Things unlawful and unreasonable should be commanded by them, that they ought not to obey them so far as their Injunctions are judged to be unlawful and unreasonable; but that they ought meekly and quietly to undergo that Punishment, which is annex'd to their unjust Laws; (a) and that all Subjects are obliged to pay due Honour, and Love, and Reverence, and Tribute, to their Governours, and to pray for them; to live peaceably under their Government, and to promote the Welfare and Happiness of that Society, whereof they are Members. (b)

Q. What is the Duty of the Ministers of Christ?

A. I believe that the Governours of the Church are obliged to take Care of the Church of God, which our Blessed Lord

(a) *Rom.* 13. 1-6. *1 Pet.* 2. 13. *Acts* 4. 19. *Rom.* 3. 8. (b) *1 Pet.* 2. 17. *Rom.* 13. 7, 8. 12. 18. *1 Tim.* 2. 1, 2. *Tit.* 2. 11, 12. *Jer.* 29. 7.

Lord has purchased with his own Blood ;
 (a) to admit Persons duly qualified for
 their respective Offices into the Ministry ;
 (b) rightly to preach the Word of God,
 and administer the Holy Sacraments of
 Baptism, and the Lord's Supper ; (c) to
 exclude scandalous and obstinate Sinners
 from the Holy Communion of the Church ;
 (d) to instruct the ignorant ; to reprove
 the unrighteous ; to resolve the doubt-
 ful ; to visit the sick ; to comfort the
 afflicted ; (e) to be diligent in reading the
 Holy Scriptures, and other pious and
 useful Books ; (f) to be prudent and
 zealous in the Defence of Truth, and
 Confutation of Error ; to be a Pattern of
 holy and virtuous Actions to others ; (g)
 to pray for the Peace and Welfare of the
 Kingdoms of the World, and of the
 Church of Christ ; the Propagation of the
 Gospel, and the Conversion of wicked
 Men ; the Success of their Ministry, and
 the Peace and Happiness of that particu-
 lar Church, which is committed to their
 Care ;

(a) *Acts* 20. 28. *1 Pet.* 5. 1-4. (b) *1 Tim.* 5.
 20, 21. 3. 1-13. (c) *Mat.* 28. 19. 20. *Luke* 22.
 19 20. (d) *Tit.* 3. 10. *Mat.* 18 15-18. (e) 2
Tim. 4. 1-5. *Gal.* 6. 1. *1 Thess.* 5. 14. *James*
 5. 14. (f) *John* 5. 39. *1 Tim.* 4. 14, 15, 16. (g)
Tit. 1. 6-11. 2 *Tim.* 2. 22-26. *1 Tim.* 4. 12.

Care ; (b) and to give Thanks to God for the Success of their Ministry, and his gracious Benefits conferr'd on the Church ; (i) and that the Governours of the Christian Church, appointed by our Blessed Saviour and his Apostles, are Bishops, Presbyters, and Deacons ; (k) and that no Person ought ordinarily to take upon himself to preach the Word of God publicly, to administer the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, and to execute the Office of a Minister of Christ, but he that has been ordain'd and authoriz'd to do so, by the Governours of the Christian Church. (l)

Q. What is the Duty of the People towards the Ministers of Christ ?

A. I believe that all Christians ought to love and honour their Ecclesiastical Governours, and to esteem them very highly for their Works Sake ; (a) to be candid and favourable in their Censures of them, and ready to conceal their Infirmities

(h) 1 Tim. 2. 1, 2. Rom. 12. 12. Eph. 6. 18, 19. 1. 15-20. 1 Thess. 5. 17. (i) 1 Thess. 2. 13. Rom. 1. 8-12. (k) John 20. 21. Acts 20. 28. 1 Tim. 3. 1-7. Phil. 1. 1. 1 Tim. 5. 17. 3. 8, 9, 10. (l) Heb. 5. 4. Mat. 28. 19, 20. Luke 22. 19, 20. 1 Tim. 4. 14. 1. 18. 5. 22. (a) 1 Thess. 5. 12, 13. Luke 10. 16.

firmities and Defects ; (b) to attend duly on their Ministry, and obey their Doctrine and Injunctions , so far as they are agreeable to the Word of God ; (c) to render to them their Dues, and reward them liberally for their great Pains and Diligence in the Discharge of the Ministerial Office ; (d) to pray for them, that God would be pleased to make them faithful and prudent in the Discharge of their Duty, to direct them in the Way of Truth and Righteousness, to give Success to their Labours, to bless them with Health and Happiness ; (e) and to give hearty Thanks to God for all the Benefits which they receive from him by them. (f)

Q. What is the Duty of Husbands towards their Wives ?

A. I believe that Marriage is the Institution of God, and honourable in all ; (g) and that a Man ought to have but one Wife at a Time, and a Woman but one Husband ; (h) and that it is unlawful for a Man to put away his Wife, and for a Woman to put away, or leave her Husband,

(b) *James* 4. 11. *Col.* 3. 8 14. *1 Pet.* 4. 8.
 (c) *Heb.* 10. 25. 13. 17. *Acts* 4. 19. (d) *Rom.*
 13. 7. *1 Tim.* 5. 17. *1 Cor.* 9. 14. (e) *Eph.* 6.
 18, 19. *1 Theff.* 5. 25. *Col.* 4. 2, 3, 4. *2 Theff.*
 3. 1-5. (f) *1 Tim.* 2. 1, 2. *Eph.* 5. 20. (g) *Mat.*
 19. 4, 5, 6. *Heb.* 13. 4. (h) *1 Tim.* 3. 2.

band, and to marry again, except in the Case of Adultery ; (i) and that the Husband ought to love his Wife, and to be faithful to her Bed ; to give her convenient Maintenance, and to treat her with Gentleness and Equity ; to conceal her Infirmities, and to instruct her in all the Parts of her Christian Duty ; to give her a good Example, and to pray for her temporal and eternal Happiness. (k)

Q. What is the Duty of Wives towards their Husbands ?

A. I believe that the Wife ought to love her Husband, and to obey all his lawful and reasonable Commands ; (a) to be faithful and true to his Bed, and careful and diligent in the Management of his household Affairs ; (b) to conceal his Defects, and to advise him in the ordering of his temporal and eternal Concernments ; (c) to be grave and meek in her Behaviour, and decent in her Attire ; to give him an holy and virtuous Example, and to pray to God for his temporal and eternal Happiness. (d)

Q.

(i) *Mat.* 19. 9. *Mark* 10. 11, 12. (k) *Eph.* 5. 25-29. *Gal.* 5. 19, 20, 21. *1 Tim.* 5. 8. *Col.* 3. 19. *1 Pet.* 3. 7. 4. 8. *1 Cor.* 14. 35. *Mat.* 5. 16. *James* 5. 16. (a) *Tit.* 2. 4, 5. *Eph.* 5. 33. *Col.* 3. 18. (b) *Heb.* 13. 4. *Prov.* 31. 10, &c. (c) *1 Pet.* 4. 8. *Heb.* 3. 13. (d) *1 Pet.* 3. 1-6. *Tit.* 3. 8. *James* 5. 16. *Mat.* 7. 11, 12.

Q. What is the Duty of Parents towards their Children ?

A I believe that Parents ought to take Care to maintain and educate their Children, and to shew Love and Tenderneſs to them ; (a) to ſee that they are duly admitted into the Chriſtian Church by the Holy Inſtitution of Baptiſm, and inſtructed in the Nature of the Baptiſmal Covenant, and the Duties of an holy and Chriſtian Life, when they come to Years of Underſtanding ; (b) to put them often in Mind of the glorious Being and overruling Providence of God ; of the Creation, Preſervation, and Redemption of the World ; of the Immortality of their Souls, and the final Judgment ; of the everlaſting Happineſs of good Men, and the eternal Punishment of the Workers of Iniquity ; (c) to check and reſtrain their exorbitant Deſires, and irregular Paſſions, and to accuſtom them to Self-denial ; to encourage them in well-doing, and to make them ſenſible of their Faults when they do amiſs, and to correct them for them ſeaſonably and moderately ;
(d)

(a) 1 Tim. 5. 8. Eph. 6. 4. Tit. 2. 4. Col. 3. 21.
 (b) Acts 2. 38, 39. Eph. 6. 4. Dent. 6. 4-7. Iſa. 28. 9, 10. (c) Heb. 11. 6. Neh. 9. 6. Col. 1. 16, 17. 1 John 4. 9, 10. 2 Tim. 1. 10. 2 Cor. 5. 10. Mat. 25. 46. Rom. 2. 6, 7, 8.

(*d*) to endeavour to fit them to be serviceable in their Generation by a convenient Education, and to put them into an honest and suitable Employment; (*e*) to give them a good Example, and to pray to God for their temporal and eternal Happiness; (*f*) to see that they read the Scriptures, and pray, and give Thanks to God in private, and duly attend on the Worship of God in publick; and to examine them afterwards how they behav'd themselves in the Church, and what they have remembered of that which was done there; (*g*) to endeavour to settle them well in the World, and to do what they conveniently can for them, to promote their Welfare and Happiness. (*h*)

Q. What is the Duty of Children towards their Parents ?

A. I do believe, that Children ought to love their Parents, and to pay them due Honour and Reverence; (*a*) to perform Obedience to all their lawful and reasonable Commands, without murmuring

(*d*) *Prov.* 22. 6. 13. 24. *Col.* 3. 21. *1 Sam.* 3. 11-14. *Prov.* 23. 13, 14. (*e*) *2 Cor.* 12. 14. *2 Thess.* 3. 10, 14 (*f*) *Mat.* 5. 16. *James* 5. 16. (*g*) *Eph.* 6. 4. *Mat.* 6. 6. *Heb.* 10. 25. *Jos.* 24. 15. *Gen.* 18. 19. (*h*) *Gal.* 6. 9, 10. *Mat.* 7. 12. *Heb.* 3. 13. (*a*) *Mat.* 10. 37. *Exod.* 20. 12.

muring and complaining; (b) and if they should command them to do any Thing that is unlawful, to deny their Obedience modestly, and to let them know, that they must obey God, rather than Men; (c) to conceal their Faults and Infirmities; to bear their Imperfections and Corrections, with Patience and Meekness; (d) to contribute to their Relief, if they should fall into Want; to be ready to assist them in the Time of Weakness and Sickness; to ask their Advice in all considerable Matters, especially in the Case of Marriage, and to follow their reasonable and prudent Directions; (e) to pray for their temporal and eternal Welfare; and to return their hearty Thanks to God and to them, for all the Care and Pains which they have taken, and for all the Favours which they have conferred upon them in their Education. (f)

Q. What is the Duty of Masters towards their Servants?

A. I believe that Masters ought to be just and merciful to their Servants; and
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(b) Col. 3. 20. Eph. 6. 1, 2, 3. (c) Acts 4. 19.
(d) 1 Pet. 4. 8. Heb. 12. 9, 10. (e) 1 Tim. 5. 4.
Gal. 6. 9, 10. Prov. 1. 8, 9. Eph. 6. 1, 2, 3. Num.
30. 3, 4, 5. (f) James 5. 16. Eph. 5. 20. Mic. 6. 8.
Tit. 2. 11, 12.

to give them whatsoever by Right or Compact is their Due; (a) to treat them with Equity and Gentleness; (b) to admonish them prudently and soberly for their Faults; to bear with their Infirmities; to instruct them in their Duty to God, their Neighbour, and themselves; (c) to give them a good Example of Piety and Virtue; to pray to God with them, and for them; (d) to allow them convenient Time to serve God in publick and private; and to take Care, that they discharge their Duty to him. (e)

Q. What is the Duty of Servants towards their Masters?

A. I believe that Servants ought to perform Obedience to all the lawful and reasonable Commands of their Masters; (f) to give them due Honour and Reverence; (g) to be faithful and diligent in the Discharge of their Duty; to be just and honest to them; (h) to conceal their Infirmities; (i) to hearken to their good Instruction; to bear their Correction patiently; to submit to

(a) Col. 4. 1. Rom. 13. 7. (b) Eph. 6. 9. (c) Gal. 6. 1. Col. 3. 12, 13. Heb. 3. 13. (d) Mat. 7. 12. 5. 16. James 5. 15. 1 Thess. 5. 17. (e) Jof. 24. 15. Gen. 18. 19. Ps. 101. 2-8. (f) Col. 3. 22, 23. Rom. 13. 7. Acts 4. 19. (g) Mal. 1. 6. (h) Tit. 2. 9, 10. (i) 1 Pet. 4. 8.

to the lawful Rules of their Family ;
(k) and to pray to God for their temporal and eternal Happiness. (l)

Q. Do you think that a Holy Life is necessary to Eternal Happiness ?

A. I believe that I ought sincerely to endeavour to abstain from the Commission of Sin, and to perform all those Duties, which God requires of me in that Condition of Life, wherein he has been pleased to place me, in order to intitle my self to the Remission of Sins, the seasonable Assistance of the Holy Spirit, and everlasting Glory and Happiness in the Kingdom of Heaven ; and that if I, for any temporal Pleasure or Advantage, should persevere in the Practice of any known Sin, I shall forfeit my Title to the Pardon of Sins and eternal Life, and sadly expose my self to endless and intolerable Misery. (a)

Q. Have you faithfully perform'd your Christian Duty, and acted according to these Rules of holy and virtuous Living ?

A. I confess, with great Shame and Sorrow of Heart, that I have often offended

(k) *Prov.* 8. 10. *1 Pet.* 2. 18. *Eph.* 6. 5-8. (l) *James* 5. 16. (a) *2 Tim.* 2. 19. *Heb.* 5. 9. *Acts* 3. 19. *Mark* 16. 16. *Tit.* 2. 11-14. *Rom.* 8. 13. *Mat.* 25. 31-46.

sus Christ, purifie our Hearts by thy Holy Spirit, and excite in us a Hatred and Detestation of all Sin, and a Love of Piety and Vertue. Work in us sincere Repentance for all our Misdoings ; enlighten our Minds with the Knowledge of thy holy Will ; endue us with a steadfast Faith in thy Son Jesus Christ ; fill us with a lively Hope of that immortal Life, which he has purchased and promised ; and to assist us with thy Holy Spirit, that we may love and fear thee above all Things ; offer up our Prayers to thee with Fervency and Devotion, for those good Things which we want ; praise thee affectionately for all thy gracious Benefits ; resign up our selves to thy all-wise and most gracious Disposal ; put our whole Trust in thy infinite and adorable Perfections ; reverence thy glorious Name, and every Thing that bears a peculiar Relation to thee ; observe duly thy Sabbaths ; read thy holy Word with Seriousness and Attention ; and devoutly receive thy Holy Sacrament. Keep us from all Unrighteousness and Cruelty, and incline us to perform the great Duties of Justice and Charity to all Men. Make us to be humble and meek, grave and sober, chaste and temperate, patient and con-

contented in every Condition, ready to forgive and pray for our Enemies, watchful against all Temptations, and mindful of our latter End. Incline us to set our Affections on Things above, and to fit our selves for the Hour of Death and the Day of Judgment, by living a holy and virtuous Life; that when thou shalt be pleased to call us out of this World, we may be made Partakers of Eternal Happiness.

Bless and keep all thy People, especially our near Relations and Friends. Forgive all their Sins, and give them all those good Things, that may be needful for their Souls and Bodies. Spread abroad the Light of thy Gospel in the World: Call the uncall'd, and convert the unconverted, and bring them to the Knowledge and Obedience of thy holy Will. Bless that Part of thy Church, which is settled in these Nations. Continue to us the free Profession of thy Holy Religion, and correct whatever thou seest amiss in our Belief or Practice. Give us Peace and Plenty within our Borders; and keep us from the Abuse of any of thy Benefits. Bless our Gracious Sovereign Lord King *George*. Preserve him from Dangers; grant him a long and happy Reign o-

ver us; direct and incline him to promote thy Glory, and the Welfare of thy People; and after this Life shall be ended, crown him with Glory and Immortality in the Kingdom of Heaven. Bless his Royal Highness the Prince, the Princess, and their Issue, and all the Royal Family; and grant that we may never want a wise and religious Person to sit on the Throne of these Kingdoms, and to rule us in thy Faith and Fear. Bless all Orders and Degrees of Men among us: Incline them all, in their several Places and Stations, faithfully to perform their respective Duties, to be pious and devout, just and charitable, sober and temperate in their Conversation. Bless the Bishops and Pastors of thy Church. Make them to be exemplary in their Lives, faithful and prudent in the Performance of their Office, and zealous to promote thy Glory, and the Salvation of thy People; and incline the People committed to their Charge, to live in Obedience to thee, and Submission to them. Comfort and relieve all them, that are in Affliction and Trouble: Give them Patience under their Afflictions, and an happy Deliverance out of all their Troubles. Be pleased to bless us, to keep us from all

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Dangers ghostly and bodily; to give us such a Measure of Ease, Health, Strength, and the good Things of this Life, as thou seest to be convenient for us, and cause us always to serve thee in Sincerity and Truth.

Finally we praise thee, O Lord, for all thy Favours vouchsafed to us, and all thy People; for giving us an excellent Being, and preserving us, and making many Creatures to serve us, and supply our Wants, and make our Passage thro' this World delightful to us; for our Health and Strength, Food and Raiment, Peace and Safety, and for all other thy corporal Favours; but we praise thee more especially for giving thy Son to redeem us, thy Word to instruct us, and thy Holy Spirit, to comfort and assist us; for all the Means of Grace, and the Hope of Eternal Glory; and we beseech thee to give us that due Sense of all thy Favours, that our Hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we may shew forth our Thankfulness to thee, by devoting our selves to thy Service, and walking before thee in Holiness and Righteousness all our Days, for the Sake of thy Son Jesus Christ; in whose holy Name and Words we farther call upon thee. *Our Father, &c.*

*A Prayer to be used before Morning
Service on the Lord's Day.*

O Holy and Heavenly Father ; who
hast abundantly discover'd thy
uncontrolable Power and incomprehen-
sible Wisdom, thy infinite Goodness and
boundless Mercy, in the wonderful
Works of the Creation and Redemption
of the World by thy Son *Jesus Christ* :
Be pleased, I humbly beseech thee, to
forgive all my Sins, and to enable me, for
the Time to come, to walk with greater
Care and Circumspection in this dange-
rous and sinful World ; to resist all
Temptations to the Practice of Sin ; to
persevere in well-doing ; and to give up
my self entirely to thy Divine Worship
and Service. Enlighten my dark Under-
standing with a bright Ray of thy Di-
vine and Heavenly Wisdom, and give
me greater and more perfect Knowledge
of thy glorious Being, and adorable Per-
fections, and wonderful Works : O that
I may seriously and frequently consider
of thy infinite Goodness and Mercy dis-
cover'd to us sinful and unworthy Crea-
tures ; and that my Soul may be filled
with pure and fervent Love of thee ;
and that I may affectionately praise and
adore thee for them. Enable me to spend
duly

duly that Holy-Day, which thou hast been pleased to set apart for thy Divine Worship, in Holy Reading and pious Meditation, in devout Prayers and affectionate Praises, and in all other religious and virtuous Actions, that are fit and convenient to be done. O that I may carefully banish out of my Mind all vain, and worldly, and sinful Thoughts, and place my Heart and Affections on Things above, and so keep thy sacred Days here on the Earth, that I may celebrate a most joyful and eternal Sabbath with thee in the Kingdom of Heaven. Incline me to go seasonably and cheerfully to thy House, and prepare my Heart by thy Holy Spirit for the due Performance of thy Publick Service, and cause me to demean myself with profound Humility and awful Reverence in the Presence of thee, who art the supreme Governour of Heaven and Earth. Enable me to offer up to thee my Prayers and Praises with Fervency and Devotion ; and let not my great Unworthiness induce thee to reject my Petitions, and to deny me thy Divine Favours. O that I may diligently attend to thy Holy Word read and preached, and lay it up in my Heart, and bring forth the delightful Fruit of Holiness and Virtue.

Be pleased to afford me the gracious Assistance of thy Blessed Spirit ; and enable me sincerely and faithfully to discharge my Duty ; and assist all the Pastors of thy Church with thy Holy Spirit, and incline them duly to keep thy Holy Days, and faithfully to perform their Ministerial Office; and prepare the Minds of all thy People to serve thee in Sincerity and Truth, and to hear thy Word, and do it. Make us all to be truly thankful for the Means of Grace, and all Opportunities of serving thee without Molestation and Fear ; and to express our Thankfulness to thee by walking worthy of that Holy Vocation wherewith we are call'd. Grant this, O Heavenly Father, for the Sake of thy dear Son *Jesus Christ* our Lord. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be used after Evening Service on the Lord's Day.

O God, who art good to all, and whose tender Mercies are over all thy Works; I unfeignedly praise thee for thy great Goodness and Mercy vouchsafed to the Sons of Men, in giving them a sublime and excellent Being, and setting them over the various Works of thy Hands, and furnishing them liberally with all Things convenient for them ;

them; and in giving thy only-begotten Son to take our Nature upon him, and to become a Sacrifice for Sin, and an Example of holy Living; to discover thy sacred Will to us, and to perswade us to perform sincere Obedience to it; to rescue us from Eternal Misery, and to put us into a Capacity of obtaining everlasting Happiness. I affectionately praise thee also for all the Means of Grace, and for all Opportunities of performing publick Worship to thee, of hearing thy Holy Word, and partaking of thy Blessed Sacrament. Grant, O Gracious Father, that I may constantly endeavour to make a due Use of all thy great and undeserved Favours; and to shew forth thy Praise not only with my Lips but in my Life, by giving up my self to thy Service, and by walking before thee in Holiness and Righteousness all the Days of my Life. O that the Prayers and Praises, which I have offer'd up to thee this Day, may be acceptable in thy Sight; and that the Word of Truth, which I have heard in the Assembly of thy Saints, may make so lasting an Impression upon my Mind, that I may be effectually induced thereby to believe in thee, and to serve thee acceptably with Reverence and Godly Fear. Be pleased, O merci-

ful God, to pardon my Sins, and to cause me to be more fervent and devout in thy Service. Accept the Prayers and Praises of thy People, and supply all their corporal and spiritual Wants, and grant that thy Word, which has been preached this Day in all Christian Assemblies, may have a due Influence on the Minds of thy People, and cause them to live holy and virtuous Lives; that by our pious and religious Demeanour here, we may glorifie thy great Name, and finally by thy Mercy obtain everlasting Life, through *Jesus Christ* our Lord. *Amen.*

A Prayer before the Communion.

O Most Gracious God and Father, I unfeignedly praise and magnifie thy Divine Majesty, for thy great Goodness and Mercy vouchsafed to me thy unworthy Servant, in inviting me to thy Holy Table, to partake of the consecrated Bread and Wine, the sacred Signs and Symbols of the Body and Blood of thy dear Son *Jesus Christ*. Enable me, I beseech thee, to fit and prepare my self for that spiritual Entertainment, by a true Repentance for my Sins and Offences, and a lively Faith in thy Son *Jesus Christ*, and a sincere Affection to my Brethren. Make me to cleanse my Hands, and to pu-
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rise my Heart from all Uncleanneſs, and to adorn my ſelf with all Chriſtian Virtues and Graces. Cauſe me to hate all Sin and Iniquity, and to be truly griev'd, that I have offended thee, who art the God of my Life, and the Author of my Salvation. Inflame my Heart with Love and Affection to thee, and my Bleſſed Saviour; and incline me ſtedfaſtly to purpoſe to ſerve thee in Holineſs and Righteouſneſs all my Days, that when I ſhall approach to thy holy Table, and receive the conſecrated Bread and Wine, I may renew my Baptiſmal Covenant, and confirm my Title to the Forgiveneſs of Sins, the Aſſiſtance of thy Holy Spirit, and everlaſting Glory and Happineſs in the Kingdom of Heaven, thro' *Jeſus Chriſt* my Bleſſed Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

A Thankſgiving after the Communion.

O Moſt mighty God and merciful Father, who art infinitely perfect and happy in thy ſelf, and giveſt to all, Life, and Breath, and all Things. I heartily thank thy Divine Majeſty for thy exceeding Goodneſs and Mercy vouchſafed to me, thy unworthy and ſinful Creature, in admitting me to thy holy Table, and feeding me with the Myſtical Body and Blood of thy dear Son *Jeſus Chriſt*. Grant that

the Consideration of thy great Goodness and Mercy, which thou hast shewed to me, may inflame my Heart with ardent Love and Affection to thee, and fill my Mouth with Songs of Praise and Thanksgiving. O let me never forget thy divine Love, which mov'd thee to give thy only begotten Son to redeem me and all thy People; nor the great Love of our Blessed Saviour, which inclined him to chuse to suffer a painful and shameful Death on the Cross; that he might deliver us from Sin and Death, and bring us to the Enjoyment of everlasting Life: But grant, that the Remembrance of thy Divine Love to the Children of Men, and of the great Things, which thou hast done for us, may induce me and all thy People, continually to bless and praise thy holy Name, and to offer up our selves a holy and lively Sacrifice to thee. O that we may never defile our selves with any wilful Sin; but constantly keep our selves pure and clean, and faithfully perform those solemn Promises and Vows of holy and virtuous Living, which we have made to thee. Grant this, O Heavenly Father, for the Sake of thy dear and well-beloved Son *Jesus Christ* our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

14. NO 63

F I N I S.